

Studies on Mikania (Compositae)-XIV

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Continued studies of Mikania have resulted in the discovery of the following new species from South America.

Mikania summinima W.Holmes, sp. nov.

Suffrutex volubilis; foliis triangulo-ovatis, ca. 4 x 3 cm, apice acuminatis, basi cordatis, marginibus crenatis vel integris. Capitulescentiis corymbosis, 5 x 10 cm. Capitulis ca. 4.5 mm longis. Corollis ca. 3 mm longis, dentibus limbi late triangularibus, ca. 0.8 mm longis. Achaenis 2.5 2.7 mm longis. Pappi setis 40-45, ca. 3 mm longis, scabridis.

Suffrutescent twining vine. Stems terete, hispid, the younger parts pilose. Leaf blades triangular-ovate, ca. 4 x 3 cm, 3-5 nerved from the base; upper surfaces puberulent to crisp-hairy, glandular; lower surfaces pilose, glandular, the veinlets reticulate; apices acuminate; margins crenate (to entire on upper leaves); bases cordate; petioles 1-1.5 cm long, puberulent. Capitulescence a corymb, ca. 5 x 10 cm, the heads somewhat congested toward the tips of the branchlets; branchlets crisp-hairy; ultimate branchlets 1-2 mm long, crisp-hairy; bracteal leaves linear to lance-ovate, otherwise similar to cauline leaves but reduced in size. Heads ca. 4.5 mm long; subinvolucral bracts borne at the base of the ultimate branchlets, linear, 2-3 mm long, crisp-hairy. Phyllaries oblong-obovate, ca. 3 mm long, puberulent; apices rounded, densely puberulent. Corolla white, ca. 3 mm long; tube ca. 1 mm long, glandular; throat funnellform, ca. 1.2 mm long; teeth broadly triangular, ca. 0.8 mm long, glandular. Achenes (immature) 2.5 2.7 mm long, glandular. Pappus bristles white, 40-45, ca. 3 mm long, margins scabrid. Style branches hirsute.

TYPE: Argentina. Misiones. San Ignacio, Puerto Nuevo, 12 March 1946, G.W.Schwarz 2208 (S (holotype); S (isotype)).

The new species is characterized by its crisp-hairy pubescence, small heads and phyllaries, capitulescence with the heads clustered toward the tips of the branches, and hirsute style branches. Several characteristics, but especially the nature of the heads, suggest resemblance to Mikania minima (Bak.) B.L.Robins. That species has heads 3-3.5 mm long, phyllaries 2-2.5 mm long with acute apices, and a capitulescence with the heads more racemously disposed. The stem is also conspicuously hexagonal and the style appendages lack hirsute papillae.